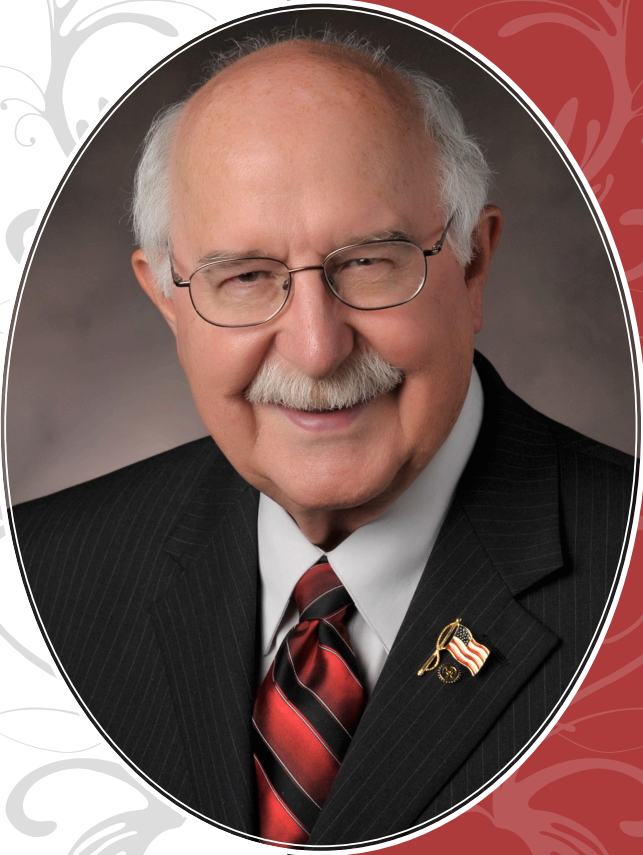


You Can Count on
Norm



The 16th Annual Rotary Club of
New Albany Community Toast &
Benefit Banquet in honor of

*Norman
Melhiser*



Evening's Program

Jamey Aebersold Jazz Trio

Welcome

David Neel, Rotary Club of New Albany President

Invocation

Dan Williamson

Dinner

Opening

David Neel

Barry Bernson, Master of Ceremonies

Toaster

J. Patrick O'Rear

Presentation

Ed Clere, Indiana State Representative

Toasters

Chet Michelle

Bill Ryall

Presentation

Chancellor Sandra Patterson-Randles,
IU Southeast

Toaster

Terry Graham

Presentation

Bettye Dunham, Rotary Governor District 6580

Community Toast

James W. Robinson

Honoree's Response

Norman L. Melhiser

Closing

David Neel

Evening's Program



The Rotary Club of New Albany
2009 Community Toast &
Benefit Banquet In Honor of
Norman Melhiser



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Rotary International

Rotary is a worldwide organization of business and professional leaders that provides humanitarian service, encourages high ethical standards in all vocations, and helps build goodwill and peace in the world. Approximately 1.2 million Rotarians belong to more than 32,500 Rotary clubs located in 168 countries.

Rotary Club of New Albany

Each year, the Rotary Club of New Albany receives numerous requests for donations from the community. Proceeds accumulated from the 2009 Rotary Community Toast and Benefit were distributed among the following organizations, projects and programs: Ronald McDonald House; "I Like Me" book distribution; Community Alliance to Promote Literacy; Boys & Girls Club of Kentuckiana; Children's Academy of New Albany; The Carnegie Center; Clean Up New Albany; New Life International; American Cancer Society; Angel Tree; Indiana University Southeast; Hoosier Boys State; Hoosier Girls State; Forrest McCaffrey Scholarship Fund; Floyd County Head Start; Rotary Youth Exchange; Rotary Youth Leadership Awards Conference; International Water Projects in Mexico and Uganda; Floyd County Scholarship Banquet; Rotary Scholarships; Interact Club at New Albany High School; YMCA; BridgePointe Services; New Albany Floyd County Public Library Foundation; Community Foundation's Youth Philanthropy Council.

Fifty percent of the net proceeds from this evening will be used by the Rotary Club of New Albany to continue to address humanitarian projects both locally and internationally.

Rotary Club



The Rotary Club of New Albany
Post Office Box 141
New Albany, IN 47151-0141

For member information,
go to rcna.us



The Story of Norman Melhiser

Accountants are stuffy, humorless bean counters. Are you considering not reading the rest of this? Initially, I wasn't sure if this would be fun to write, but don't worry about trudging through this. When it comes to Norman Melhiser, those clichés couldn't be farther off the mark.

At a recent luncheon, I had the chance to chat with Norm and his wife Joyce. Prior to meeting him, I was told (actually warned) he's not your typical businessman. Less than a minute speaking with him, I determined that was clearly an understatement.

First impressions: Norm is the antithesis of stuffy. He wears a paper clip in place of a tie clasp. I've been told his staff pooled resources together to buy him colored paper clips. I think they wanted to step-up his image. Also, Norm is a very happy man married to a wonderful lady. I should mention that Joyce is an award-winning, internationally trained cake designer. He's warm and engaging. He loves telling jokes...the less politically correct, the better. That was enough for me to warm up to him and I was no longer worried about writing something interesting. Writing about Norm writes itself.



I could go on about my impressions of Norm, but I think it's time to tell you more about where the man came from. Not just who he is today.

NORM'S FAMILY

Norm's mother, Freda L. Lemmel, was born on April 24, 1909. She grew up on a large farm on State Highway 62, in Floyd County, Indiana at the border of Floyd and Harrison Counties. A 1927 graduate of New Albany High School, she rode the bus everyday of her high school career. I can just imagine the reluctance of current high school students to this.

Norm's father, Walter E. Melhiser, was born in Owensboro, Kentucky, on September 8, 1908. As if living in that day and age wasn't hard enough, Norm's father became an orphan at the young age of thirteen. Perhaps this is what helped develop his strong work ethic, which he passed onto Norm.



His aunts Regina (Melhiser) Traughber, Virgie Lemmel, Luetta (Lemmel) Forbis, and his uncle by marriage, Burrell Forbis, all were influential in his life.

NORM IS BORN

Norm Melhiser was born on September 5, 1935 in New Albany, Indiana. Norm wasn't born in a hospital, but at home...824 Jay Street to be exact. Myself being the mother of two, I shudder to even think of this.

Norm was the second child born to the family. However, two years before his entrance to the world, Norm's older brother died at birth and is buried in the Lanesville, Indiana cemetery-closely situated to what was his grandparents' residence.

His parents were hard working, conservative by nature and by necessity. They were always ready to help others in need and taught Norm that people need help from time-to-time. His dad could do just about anything well. He remodeled the extremely old family home and handled everything from pouring the foundation to putting on the roof and everything in-between. His father bought Norm his first car, took the engine apart, ground valves, put in new rings, installed new brakes, adjusted the carburetor, and made parts with a metal lathe he purchased. I'm not sure what any of this means, but I'm still impressed.

He taught Norm to use a slide rule and could work out math problems in his head. I'm left with the feeling Norm clearly respected his father and was a little in awe of him as well.

His mother had a great sense of humor, was kind and could always find something positive in a bad circumstance. She taught Norm there was something to learn from any situation. She was well read and spoke intelligently on a wide range of subjects...but you had to start the conversation with her. That's where Norm got his shyness.

GROWING UP

For Norm, growing up surrounded by his extended family and friends was a wonderful experience and influenced him a great deal. His mother was a natural teacher and most of the neighborhood children came to his house to play. She had a knack for talking with children, not at them, and they responded to that.



He attended Silver Street School, which was only six houses from home. A favorite memory was making the school softball team. At that time, the local grade schools offered fast pitch softball for boys only. During off seasons, Norm and his friends played football and softball in the street and basketball in the paved schoolyard.



Norm would also often visit his grandparents' farm. It had everything a young boy from the city could wish for...fields to run through, barns to hide in and a pond to jump in.

With a closely-knit family, Norm was always going to school festivals and magic shows with his Aunt Virgie, but it was his Aunt Luetta and Uncle Burrell who introduced him to sports. Uncle Burrell in particular would take him to see "real baseball" at Louisville Colonels' games. Norm cherishes these memories, but it wasn't until much later that he truly realized the significance of his family's involvement in his life. With a father serving in the U.S. Army medical corps during WWII, his extended family was instrumental in helping his mother raise a boy into a young man.

Norm graduated from New Albany High School. He attended Indiana University Southeast then transferred to IU Bloomington. After the military, he transferred and graduated from the University of Louisville. With a background like that, who does he cheer for?

INFLUENCES ON A BOY

For most of us, there are people and events that guide the direction of ones life. For Norm, there are many, but two high school teachers stand out. Mr. Mike Hoffman noticed Norm's shyness yet realized his potential. With all the subtlety of a brick to the head, he one day said, "Norm, you don't have enough charisma to be an undertaker. You should take my accounting class." Norm did and he liked it. Secondly, there was Ms. Pritz, the French teacher. In spite of Norm's shyness, she had him at the front of class speaking and interpreting French. There's also something about participating in a play for French class. Norm didn't want to talk about that.



NORM. CHURCH. LOVE.

There's a bit of history with Norm and the Catholic church. His father was excommunicated. Nothing too interesting...just married a Methodist. Despite his parents' history with the Catholic church, his mother permitted him to regularly attend Holy Trinity Catholic Church with his Aunt Regina.

However, as Norm so astutely noted, "One becomes rather independent in their teen years" and he began going to a neighborhood Methodist church with all his friends. Norm's life would have been drastically different if he hadn't changed churches. It was there he met Joyce Ann Tackett, or as Norm puts it, "A very nice and attractive young lady who sang in the church choir." After dating several years, Norm made what he describes as one of the best decisions he ever made, "She asked me to marry her." At the time, Norm was enlisted in the U. S. Army and needed a three day pass just to get to his own wedding. However, luck held out and they were married on February 20, 1959, at the church where they first met—now named Silver Street United Methodist Church.



STARTING A FAMILY

Norm and Joyce rented a small cottage home on Slate Run Road. Everything was small—the kitchen, the bedroom, the bathroom. One small oil stove heated this veritable mansion.

Two years later, Norm and Joyce moved into a not quite as small house on Audubon Place. It was at this residence they were blessed with their first and second child. Vicki was born in 1962 and Angela was born in 1964. With two children in the house and surrounded by females needing room for clothes and shoes and purses and...okay you get it...they moved to their third home on Locust Street. They stayed there until 1990 when they moved to their present residence on DePauw Avenue.

While living at the Locust Street residence, Norm and Joyce were once again blessed with their third child, Michael,



born in 1973. Mike is the youngest with older sisters-yes, they spoiled him and I'm betting Norm was relieved to have another male in the house.

NORM'S RESUME

Norm started his first job the summer after sixth grade. It was at the local mom and pop shop, Reinhart's Porter Paint Store on Market. He started out stocking shelves and ended up running the store while owners, Arthur and Alvina vacationed. He learned valuable business lessons there and developed some communication skills-hard work for a shy person. But most importantly, he found a second home. A place where teaching young Norm to drive a car wasn't too much to ask of the kind owners.

Starting in 1957, Norm spent the next ten years working for McGrain & McGrain, CPA's...with the exception of military time served. He became the office manager in 1964. By 1967, he felt confident in his ability to build his own accounting practice.

He was right; Melhiser Endris Tucker has succeeded. However, Norm fully attributes the successfulness of the thriving practice to not just himself, but a host of individuals and partners with whom he has been associated. Not least of which has been his supportive wife Joyce. Norm wanted to be sure that I mentioned how much credit and recognition she deserves for supporting him through everything. To quote Norm, "She has tolerated the stresses, trials and tribulations while raising a family on her own much of the time." Norm also praises God for ultimately being the guiding hand in any success he has been fortunate to experience.

NORM TODAY

If I had to guess, Norm would have wanted me to begin this story by telling you how successful his children have been. I didn't begin it that way, but let's go ahead and please the proud papa now.

Vicki lives in Sellersburg with her husband Dan Williamson and their two children Danielle and Jordan. Vicki's husband Dan founded a local business some years ago, ProMedia Group, and Vicki has an active hand in the company's accounting. I guess it runs in the blood.

His second daughter Angela lives in Chesapeake, Virginia



with her husband Jerry Grant and two children Andrew and Katherine. Jerry is a Navy Captain with approximately 24 years of service and they have been stationed many places over the years. Jerry is a maxillofacial dentist and works with military personnel who have incurred serious facial injuries.

His youngest, Mike, is a third grade teacher in Henryville. Mike is new to teaching, but has already experienced the satisfaction of knowing this is what he was meant to do.

THE COMMUNITY

Over the years, Norm has gone out of his way to actively support the region. He has been involved with numerous organizations to the betterment of himself and the local community. Norm is a member of the American Institute of CPA's, Indiana CPA Society, and the Kentucky Society of CPA's. He's a Rotarian. For forty-one years, he has been an active member of the Floyd County and Southern Indiana Chambers of Commerce. During that time, he held various positions including Chairman of the Budget Committee, Chairman of the Legislative Action Committee, a member of the Board of Directors for six years and was elected Chairman of the Board for the 1989-90 fiscal year. During his term as Chairman, he initiated the Chamber's drive to obtain the Masters of Business Administration degree for Indiana University Southeast.

Norm also taught Principles of Accounting at Indiana University Southeast, and was a member of the Board of Advisors for the University from 1992 through 1998. He is a member, past officer, past director, and past president of the New Albany Lions Club. He was a board member of the Floyd Memorial Hospital Foundation from 1998 through 2004, and was chairman of the finance committee during that time. In October 2004, Governor Joe Kernan appointed Norm to the Indiana Gaming Commission.

And most importantly of all, Norm has filled the role as a Little League and Babe Ruth baseball coach and is a Sunday school teacher at Graceland Baptist Church.

WHAT'S LEFT TO SAY?

Norm is charming, witty, caring, smart and mischievous. He cares about his community and understands the importance of family. Have I included every funny story, every struggle, every person who made a difference in Norm's life?...not by a long shot. There are so many and not enough room to include them all.

Even with this shortened version of Norm's life, I hope this snapshot leaves you with insight on the man we honor tonight and an understanding of why we do so.

~ Michelle Polk



The 2009 Charity Recipient

IU Southeast Means Business

IU Southeast is one of eight campuses of Indiana University. The beautiful 177-acre campus serves more than 6,800 students and more than 700 faculty and staff members. There are six schools: Arts and Letters, Business, Education, Natural Sciences, Nursing, and Social Sciences. Offering more than 50 degree programs, IU Southeast is one of the largest universities in the Greater Louisville Metro area.

What began as the Business and Economics Division in 1967 has grown into one of the most popular schools on the New Albany campus, offering both undergraduate and graduate business programs. The IU Southeast School of Business has maintained a reputation for excellence throughout its history, and in 1992, the school admitted its first MBA class. In 2007 the part-time MBA program was ranked 18th in the nation and 3rd in the Midwest region by Business Week Magazine. It also ranked sixth in the nation for student satisfaction.

Today, the School of Business still offers a nationally ranked MBA graduate business program, and a new Masters of Science in Strategic Finance for accounting/finance professionals who are "CFO" bound. Other recent initiatives include starting a speaker series, beginning a trading lab online in spring 2010, and creating the first endowed chair on the IU Southeast campus – all funded by donations from Judge Carlton & Sue Sanders.

The School of Business received a "Best Business School" rating by the Princeton Review in 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, and 2010. The school was ranked 5th in the nation in "Best Classroom Experience" in 2009. Since its establishment, the IU Southeast School of Business has educated more than 4,000 local professionals.

Proceeds from tonight's event will go to support the Norman L. and Joyce A. Melhisier Endowment Fund at IU Southeast, which provides scholarships for non-traditional students in the Accounting department.

*Honoree's
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Recipient*



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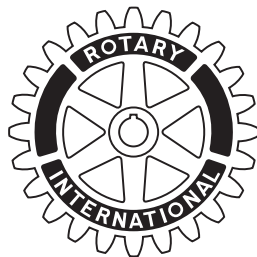
*Past
Rotary
Honorees*



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Dave Colter, Ambassador Campaign Co-Chair
Doug York, Honorary Ambassador Chair
David Neel, Ambassador Campaign
Bob Lane, Ambassador Campaign
Dan Williamson, Ambassador Campaign
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Bettye Dunham, Rotary Governor District 6580
Chancellor Sandra Patterson-Randles
Floyd Central High School Radio and Television
Department
Barry Bernson, WDRB-TV
Jamey Aebersold Jazz Inc.

*Special
Thanks*



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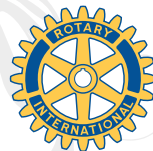


Notes



Notes





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